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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,014	02/28/2002	Andrea Hughs-Baird	0112300-610	3796
29159	7590	02/03/2006	EXAMINER	
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC P. O. BOX 1135 CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135			MOSSER, ROBERT E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3713	
DATE MAILED: 02/03/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/086,014

Applicant(s)

HUGHS-BAIRD ET AL.

Examiner

Robert Mosser

Art Unit

3713

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 23 January 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☒ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).


4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____
Claim(s) objected to: 12-14, 16 and 17.
Claim(s) rejected: 1-11, 15, 18-20, and 21.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☐ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s).
13. ☒ Other: See Continuation Sheet.


XUAN M. THAI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TC3701

Continuation of 3. NOTE: Claim 22 presents limitations in a combination not previously considered.

Continuation of 13.

Other: Issue One: (On page 8 of applicant's remarks starting in the middle of the 3rd full paragraph) The applicant contends a separation between the terms the actions of a player selection and a player election. The applicant appears to attempt to separate a player election of a prize from an player acceptance/rejection of a prize. On a first point the separation of "...if the player selects the selection directly associated with that offer." and "...if the player elects the selection associated with that value" appear to be remarkably similar if not still under the purview of interchangeable as presented. This point is compounded by the lack of arguments separating or otherwise explaining why the "election" (arguably equivalent selection) is not otherwise equivalent to the "acceptance/rejection" of the same value. As such, if such argument is to be maintained by the applicant it would require a further analysis of why one of ordinary skill would not interpret the presented "acceptance/rejection" of element -A- as the "election" of element -A-.

Issue Two: (On pages 8-9 of Applicant's remarks starting the last paragraph of page 8) The applicant contends that the citation of the applicant's remarks presented in the office action dated October 12, 2005 are present out of context. While the initial portion of the quotation provided in the November 23rd, 2005 action was applicant's recitation of the examiner's position, now clarified and acknowledged by the examiner, the initial portion of the quotation poses no bearing on the examiner points following the quotation as they are and were not reliant on the initial portion of the quotation.

Issue Three: -If a player selects an offer !payable! to the player- then why wouldn't the awarded steps of Baerlocher not also be considered !paid! to the player in the operation of the prior art?

Issue Four: Baerlocher teaches the -displaying a rearrangement of the selections in a manner discernable by the player- in so much as the rearrangement is discernable by the player after they would make their subsequent selection.

Applicant is encourage to contact the examiner if there are any remaining questions regarding the interpretations provided for above.